

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
NORTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)
)
v.) CASE NO. 2:19-CR-73-WKW
)
CLEDDIE F. STONE)

ORDER

Defendant Cleddie F. Stone has filed a second *pro se* motion for compassionate release in which he seeks early release or a sentence reduction based upon the “new COVID-19 operational levels” implemented at his federal prison. (Doc. # 61 & Ex. 1.) The motion is due to be denied.

The court “do[es] not dismiss the risk of harm that COVID-19 poses to everyone, including the inmates at [FCI Coleman Low].” *Swain v. Junior*, 958 F.3d 1081, 1090 (11th Cir. 2020) (alterations added). However, “the mere existence of COVID-19 in society and the possibility that it may spread to a particular prison . . . cannot independently justify compassionate release, especially considering BOP’s statutory role and its extensive and professional efforts to curtail the virus’s spread.”

United States v. Raia, 954 F.3d 594, 597 (3d Cir. 2020) (citation omitted).

Mr. Stone’s threadbare motion fails to establish any “extraordinary and compelling reason[]” warranting his early release from prison. See 18 U.S.C.

§ 3582(c)(1)(A). Accordingly, it is ORDERED that Mr. Stone's motion for compassionate release (Doc. # 47) is DENIED.

DONE this 31st day of August, 2021.

/s/ W. Keith Watkins

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE